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Published Every Evening  
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Main Street,  
Brattleboro, Vermont.  
Address All Communications to  
The Reformer.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:  
Single Copies ..... Two Cent  
One Week ..... Twelve Cent  
One Month ..... Fifty Cent  
One Year ..... Five Dollar

Entered in the postoffice at Brattleboro, as second class matter.

The Reformer Telephone Number 1  
**127**  
for Business Office and Editorial Rooms

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Transient advertising—Run of paper, 50 cents an inch for first insertion; 25 cents an inch for each subsequent insertion. Limited space on first page at double rates.  
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MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 1916.

### THE REASON WHY.

Many good people have asked why unusual expenditures for national defense on the part of the United States are needed at this time, when the chief powers of the world are as busily engaged as they well could be and seem likely to have their attention fully occupied for some time to come.

The answer is easy. It is true that at the present moment the United States is not seriously threatened, but, just as war sometimes comes with little warning, so wars end occasionally much sooner than anyone expected. When peace comes in Europe, not all the nations of that continent will be exhausted. Those of the winning combination will be stronger than they were before in all their history and even the losing side may not be markedly weakened if peace is brought about by compromise.

In such an event, the group of allies that fails to gain its desires may seek other fields in which to recoup its losses and the most fertile fields for exploitation anywhere on the globe are in this hemisphere.

No one who has followed the course of events since August 1, 1914, can doubt that plenty of pretexts for an attack upon the United States could easily be found if they should happen to be wanted and we have not the smallest guarantee that they will not be wanted within the next few years. Dismiss from your mind the idea that the fighting nations will be unable to engage in further military enterprises when the present war is over. It may very well be that a new war will be the one thing required to check revolution and refill treasuries emptied by the European catynism. Therefore, the United States should lose no time in making its defenses impregnable. There is no reason for panic, but there is every reason for serious consideration of our position if war with a strong nation should be suddenly forced upon us.

When the great war began England was but little better prepared so far as military resources were concerned than we are today, but she had a navy of overwhelming strength. Just think what would have happened to England if it had not been for her navy and then use every bit of influence you have to make it certain that the United States will never be caught napping.

Even if the Vermont golf championship did shoot itself away into New York, the tennis title stays in Vermont. Hence Fred H. Harris of Brattleboro, who won the latter title, did double service.—Barre Times.

The contemporary could not forego its inclination to pun in writing the above paragraph. In regard to Mr. Harris it is only fair to state that in his career as a tennis player he has won between 30 and 40 championships. His list of titles at different times includes the championship of New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Ohio, New England and the New England intercollegiate highest mark.

The great majority of Americans wish to see the entente allies successful in the present war, but we should not forget that all of the outrages from which we have suffered were not from acts of the Germans. The British have slapped us across the face many times, and the latest in salt came when American goods were shipped from New York to Manila,

which is an American possession, were seized in the harbor of Hong Kong on the flimsy pretext that they were destined for German firms in the Philippines.

We rap on wood in stating that Vermont has not a single case of infantile paralysis. The experts in Washington, in making up their statement, said that there were 15 cases in Vermont. During this entire season, when New York has been panic stricken, and Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire towns have been quarantined on account of the disease, there has been just one suspected case in the state, at Underhill and careful observation showed that it was not a typical case of the dreaded disease.

The summer season for vacationists who have come to New England resorts this year will not end the first week in September. Thousands of families with children will remain in this part of the country until the epidemic of infantile paralysis in New York city is stamped out.

Senator Page will have a hard time answering all the various interrogatories propounded to him.

Kittredge Haskins.  
(Springfield Reporter.)

In the death of Hon. Kittredge Haskins of Brattleboro at his home last Saturday Vermont loses one of its foremost citizens. Mr. Haskins gained prominence as a son-in-law, having taken the 3rd degree and having been Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. He was a veteran of the Civil war where he gained the rank of 1st lieutenant and maintained an interest in military matters during his entire life. He was a vestryman of the local protestant Episcopal church and several times a delegate to the general convention of that body. As a politician he took first rank, held the usual town offices, was a member and speaker of the Vermont House of Representatives, and later a member of the senate. For eight years he was a member of the National House of Representatives at Washington, and upon retirement was, at the instance of his successor, the Hon. Frank Plimley, appointed postmaster at Brattleboro, which position he held until the present administration appointed a democrat to the place. Genial and companionable, Col. Haskins will be missed on every hand.

### GASOLINE TO DROP MORE.

Will Be at Twenty Cents in 10 Days and May Go to 17 1/2 Soon.

NEW YORK, Aug. 21.—Gasoline will fall to 20 cents a gallon within ten days or two weeks, Standard Oil officials have said. Although the Middle Western states are selling gasoline for 17 1/2 cents, there is little likelihood of this reduced figure striking New York before a month, if at all, experts said.

This drop in motorfuel is ascribed to the extraordinary output of the crude oil wells that were drilled last year and now are yielding. As a consequence of their exceptional output in the last few weeks the quotation on crude oil has fallen and with it gasoline, the price of which is regulated entirely by the production of crude oil.

Standard Oil officials said the full effect of this crude oil production will be over within two weeks and gasoline prices then will have reached their minimum. New wells are being drilled, but their yield will not be appreciable in the market of the near future.

It was denied that the government's investigation of gasoline prices is responsible either directly or indirectly for this reduction.

### FIVE NEGROES LYNCHED.

Two of the Victims Were Women—Aided Man Who Shot Officer.

NEWBERRY, Florida, August 21.—Five Negroes, three men and two women, were taken from the jail here Saturday and hanged by a mob, and another Negro was shot and killed by deputy sheriffs near Jonesville, as the result of the killing Friday of Constable S. G. Wynne and the shooting of Dr. L. G. Harris by Boisey Long, a Negro. The lynched Negroes were accused of aiding Long to escape.

Poses of several hundred men Friday night were searching the woods about Newberry for trace of Long. Further trouble was feared.

Despatches from Newberry Saturday night said that the mob which lynched the five Negroes was composed of about 200 men and worked quietly and rapidly. After gaining entrance to the jail they took the victims about a mile from town and hanged all on one oak tree. Not a shot was fired, the despatch said. The Negro shot near Jonesville also was said to have aided Long to escape. Wynne and Dr. Harris were shot when they went to Long's home at Newberry Friday to arrest him on a charge of stealing hogs.

### MANY WANT ARMY JOBS.

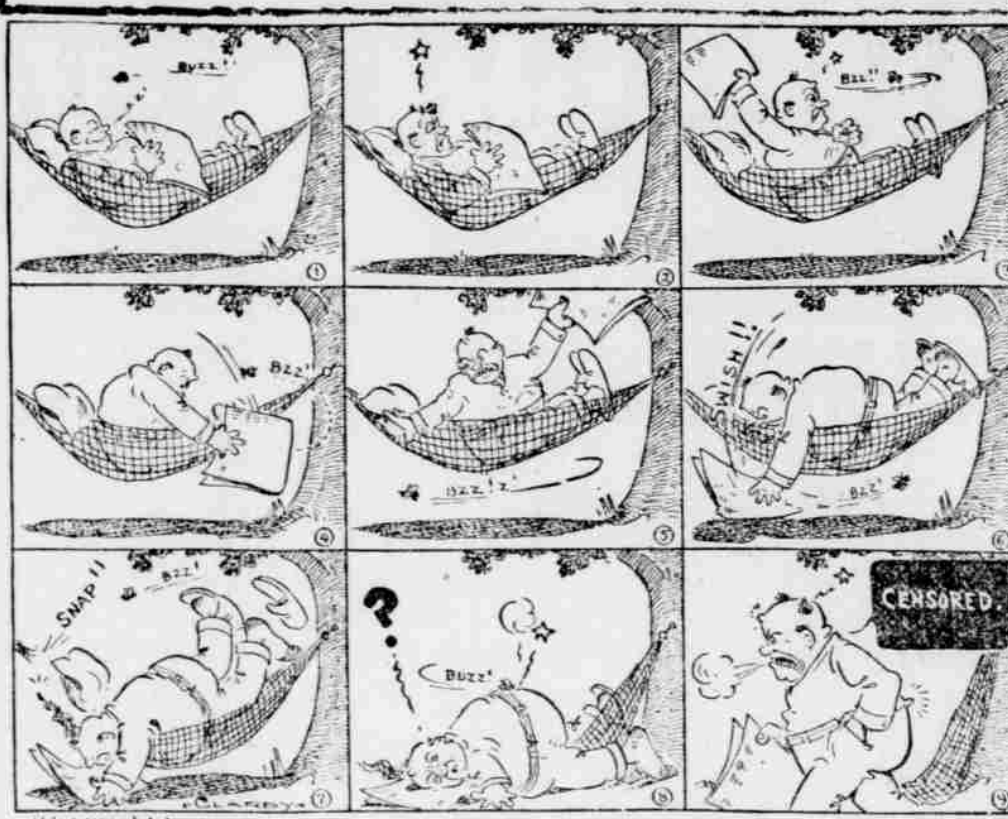
Adjutant-General Flooded with Applications for Commissions.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Applications for appointment as second lieutenant in the army have flooded the office of the adjutant-general since it became known that the service virtually is without officers of that rank and must obtain them promptly from civil life. The war department announces that applications received after August 15, could not be acted upon in time to permit the applicants to be examined August 21, the date of the first examination. Another examination will be held early in 1917.

More than 900 applicants will be examined today. Even if all are successful there will remain 600 vacancies, and July 1, 1917, when the second increment of army increase authorized by congress is added there will be another big list of places to be filled.

Excursion to Newport, R. I., Aug. 24. See advertisement on page 5.

### SWAT THE FLY



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### THE INNER TUBE

The inner tube is a one-piece union suit which is worn inside of a rubber tire. It is one of the most expensive forms of underwear on the market, but that does not deter people who are four years behind at the grocery store from buying it.

The province of the inner tube is to hold the air and anything else that it runs into. When an inner tube is bright and new it will hold a large quantity of air for a long time and cause the owner to gloat over people when he passes on the road, engaged in changing tires with a defiant look. But when age creeps over the tube it is liable to rip open in some unexpected spot and allow its contents to evaporate with a deadly and vindictive hiss. There is nothing sad or in life crowded full of grief and misfortune than to start out on a picnic with a party of loved relatives and cold chicken, and have a trusted inner tube let go of eighty pounds of free air with a long, mournful sigh.

One of the worst faults of the inner tube is its tendency to leak air and not say anything about it to the owner. This results in the growing crime of the century, known as the slow puncture. Nobody objects to a decrepit inner

tube which has run its course and is covered with the cruel scars of the amateur vulcanizer, when it explodes feet first with a yell of agony. But there is nothing more dastardly than the slow, clandestine escape of atmosphere from an inner tube which finally allows the tire to squat on its hind legs in a deep bed of sand, far removed from a shade tree or a power pump.

It is a pleasing task to replace an exhausted inner tube with one which has had a good, long rest underneath the back seat. There is nothing easier, unless it is to oil a cone clutch while standing at the head of the car. Two strong, willing men who are not pressed for time and do not care to preserve their knuckles can insert a fresh tube by hand in less time than it takes to erect a hollow tile silo. While doing so, however, most men remove the women of the party to a safe distance, where they will not be contaminated by the sulphurous tenor of the conversation.

By rights, the inner tube should be made of fourteen-inch armor plate, with a concrete base. This would make motoring both safe and pleasant and prevent many a man from falling from grace with a profane thud.

[Protected by The Adams Newspaper Service]

## DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

MARY GRAHAM BONNER

HOUSE WRENS' BANQUET.

"A Family of House Wrens had just moved to a Hole in a nice Apple Tree," said Daddy. "They were extremely proud of this new Home, and they said they must give a Banquet to all the other House Wrens who had moved to the Wrens' Orchard Village for the Summer. They didn't know at all that the Orchard was much more thought of because it had such delicious Fruit on its Trees than because they had chosen it for their Summer Home."

The House Wrens always choose an Orchard, or an old Fence, or the Gable of a House for nesting.

"But they had not been in the Orchard long before the Farmer and his Wife and all his Family used to say,

"How the Wrens do sing in the Orchard. They have the loveliest voices!"

"But to continue about the banquet:

"The Brownies were invited to come and hear the Concert. The Wrens said that they would not enjoy the Banquet as it was to be especially 'Wren Food,' but that they had arranged some very nice Songs which they hoped the Brownies would enjoy."

"And sure enough on the morning of the Banquet all the Brownies were in the Orchard, near the Apple Tree where the Family of House Wrens lived, who were giving the Banquet."

"Did they have a Banquet in the morning?" asked Nick. "I shouldn't think that would be a nice time for it."

"Neither should I," chimed in Nancy. "Well, the Wrens like to have a Feast bright and early in the morning and so, as they were not asking any Boys and Girls to this party, they chose the time they liked best themselves!"

Nick and Nancy laughed, but agreed that as long as the Wrens liked to have big Banquets in the morning they were the ones to be pleased.

"It was Mrs. Brown House Wren who had prepared the Banquet and it was served on the best plates she could find. There were plates of Pear Leaves for the first course which was Grasshopper Soup. Next on plates of Peach Leaves they had delicious Beetles, and on leaves of the Wild Cherry Trees they had Spider Salad and Bug Sandwiches."

"Why, Daddy," said Nancy. "How perfectly awful!"

"Not at all," said Daddy. "The Wrens thought it was the most delicious Banquet they had ever had, and they ate all their Goodies with just as much delight as you Children eat Ice Cream and Cake and Creamed Chicken at Parties."

"And for Dessert they had Weevils because these are insects which hurt the Fruit and the House Wrens love the Orchard, and want to protect it for the Farmer."

"Now, their Home was in a very tiny little Hole—so small that any large-sized bird couldn't have come to call. Sometimes you know large Birds go to call without being asked—and those were the callers the Wrens did not wish to have—such as Mr. Plain Sparrow who likes Mrs. Wrens nice eggs."

"After the Banquet was over the Brownies said,

"Now for our Trent."

"So the Wrens all perched on the branches of Trees, stuck out their little white chests, blinked their sharp eyes, smacked their long bills and began their Concert."

The Brownies clapped and clapped for the Wrens did sing beautifully but before long what should be heard coming through the Orchard but a number of Sparrows quarreling for all they were worth."

"No, I say they are all over this way," said one Sparrow.

"My, but I'm hungry for my breakfast," said another.

"Oh," said the Brownies, "what is the trouble? Now the Brownies, as you know were sitting all about the Apple Tree where the Banquet had been given, but they began to scatter all over the Orchard so they could keep the Sparrows out of the Wrens' Summer Homes."

"The Wrens scurried and hurried back to their different Nests in the tiny Holes, and Cranberries, and Crevices, where they had made them—very secure and safe. With their sharp feet they quickly got inside."

"The Brownies did not know what to make of the Wrens for being so unafraid."

"We're still going on with our songs for you, Brownies," they shouted. And the Brownies soon understood just why they were singing for the Sparrows were all flying off again saying crossly, 'They've built their homes so we can't get in.'"

Excursion to Newport, R. I., Aug. 24. See advertisement on page 5.

Every time a man's wife buys him a tie his vanity gets it in the neck.

## Roll of Honor

On the ROLL OF HONOR, giving percentage of Surplus and Undivided Profits to Capital, published by THE FINANCIER, a leading financial journal of New York City, in banks of \$50,000 capital or more,

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